

CHAPTER 126
STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER
[Prior to 4/20/88, see Medical Examiner, State[566] Ch 1]
[Prior to 7/1/99, see Public Safety Department[661] Ch 21]

641—126.1(691) Autopsies for sudden infant deaths—reimbursement.

126.1(1) Autopsies performed on infants under two years of age when the circumstances surrounding the death indicate that sudden infant death syndrome may be the cause of death shall conform to Medical Examiner Forms number 4, 7 A and B.

126.1(2) Counties shall be reimbursed a maximum of \$400 for each autopsy.

126.1(3) County auditors should submit a copy of the bill and Forms ME-7 A and B to:

Iowa SIDS Program
Iowa Department of Public Health
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

126.1(4) A bill must be submitted within 90 days after the autopsy is performed.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 331.802(3) “j.”

641—126.2(691) Medical examiner coverage.

126.2(1) When an individual is required to report a death to a medical examiner and the county medical examiner, the state medical examiner or the state medical examiner’s designated appointee cannot be located, the individual shall contact the county medical examiner from any adjacent Iowa county to investigate the circumstances of death and to prepare a written report in accordance with Iowa Code section 331.802. The responding medical examiner shall have full authority to conduct any procedures necessary to the investigation of the cause and manner of death.

126.2(2) The responding medical examiner shall be reimbursed by the county for which the service is provided for the investigation, mileage and expenses as is customary for the medical examiner’s home county or at a rate agreed upon by the medical examiner and the board of supervisors of the county for which the service is provided.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 80 and 691.

641—126.3(691) Fees for autopsies and related services and reimbursement for related expenses.

Autopsies performed by the state medical examiner division are provided on a fee-for-service basis. Costs of autopsies and related services and expenses are the responsibility of the county of residence of the deceased when requested by a public agency and of the person requesting the autopsy when the request is made by a private party. The estate of the deceased shall be responsible for payment of these fees and expenses when the request for an autopsy is made by the executor of the estate on behalf of the estate.

126.3(1) Fee schedule. The following fees shall apply to autopsies conducted by the state medical examiner division:

Autopsy \$1000
Copies of reports \$ 20

EXCEPTIONS: A copy of the autopsy report is included in the autopsy fee. A single copy of an autopsy report may be provided to a family member of the deceased without fee. Copies of autopsy reports may be provided to public officials for official purposes without fee.

126.3(2) *Expense reimbursement.* Other laboratory services associated with an autopsy, which shall include, but not be limited to, photography, toxicology, radiology, microbiology, and morgue fees, shall be billed by the department to the county of residence of the deceased or to the private individual requesting the autopsy at the cost to the department of the service. Moneys collected pursuant to this subrule shall be paid by the department to the laboratory or other entity providing the service.

126.3(3) *State medical examiner acting as county medical examiner.* When the state medical examiner acts in the capacity of county medical examiner, the fee for each individual deceased person for whom a county medical examiner report is prepared shall be \$100, payable by the county in which the death occurred.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 691.6 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, House File 782.

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